

Provost to provide global perspective to Conference Board

Folio Staff

The Conference Board of Canada has tapped University of Alberta provost and vice-president (academic) Carl Amrhein to serve as a visiting executive for a 14-month appointment beginning March 1—a move that President Indira Samarasekera says will benefit the Canadian post-secondary sector at large, and the U of A in particular.



Carl Amrhein

"Our post-secondary systems are changing quickly—not only because of the economy, but because of the changing expectations of communities and societies related to research-intensive universities," Samarasekera said. "Carl's involvement in these critical discussions will benefit both the U of A and the entire post-secondary sector at an important time in Canada's history."

Amrhein was already midway through a year-long professional leave when he was approached for the position. Samarasekera and the university's board of governors approved extending Amrhein's current administrative leave, originally scheduled to conclude June 30. Current acting provost Martin Ferguson-Pell has agreed to remain in the acting provost's position through the remainder of Amrhein's leave until he returns full-time to the U of A on July 1, 2014.

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In the clutches of victory



Third-year Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences student Natalie Brady helped propel the Pandas to the Canada West wrestling title Feb. 17 at the U of A Main Gym. Golden Bears grapplers also won top honours, marking the first time U of A wrestling captured both crowns.

Researchers receive NSERC funding for promising work

Michael Brown

Three University of Alberta researchers have received nearly \$1.2 million in federal government funding to support early-stage work and to encourage collaboration among academic researchers, industry and government partners.

Engineering researchers Robert Fedosejevs and Robert Hayes, and renewable resource researcher Andreas Hamann, each received Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Strategic Project Grants because their projects pertain to targeted fields of study that could strongly influence Canada's economy, society or environment in the next decade.

The destructive blight of the mountain pine beetle paved the way for Hamann's recently announced \$313,500 grant to determine which lodgepole pine



(L-R) Engineering researchers Robert Fedosejevs and Robert Hayes, and renewable resource researcher Andreas Hamann, received NSERC Strategic Project Grants totalling nearly \$1.2 million.

genotypes are particularly well adapted to handle extremes of Canada's changing climate.

The beetle infestation that has devastated the forest industry also wiped out one of the world's biggest forestry experiments—Keith Illingworth's lodgepole pine provenance trials. In 1974, the U.K. forest geneticist gathered seeds from 140 sites stretching

virtually the entire length of western North America, including 60 different locations throughout British Columbia. His goal was to compare different genotypes of the same species growing side by side in a range of environments.

The death of the trees opened the door for Hamann, whose research involves taking stem sections—which would prove

fatal to a living tree. "We want to destructively sample those trials," said Hamann, a researcher in the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences. "Now that they are dead, we can do this."

The NSERC funding required for Hamann's project is in addition to in-kind support and collaboration with a laboratory in Freiburg.

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folio

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New chairs advance Alberta's research economy

Bryan Alary

Seven new research chairs at the University of Alberta will play a key role in advancing the health and economic interests of Albertans through the Campus Alberta Innovates Program (CAIP).

“Our seven Campus Alberta Innovates Program chairs will bring a wealth of expertise and networks to enhance the University of Alberta's strengths as Alberta's flagship university.”

Lorne Babiuk

Alberta Enterprise and Advanced Education created CAIP in 2011 to enhance research in four strategic areas: energy and environment, food and nutrition, neuroscience/prions and water. Seven of the first 16 CAIP chairs will be based at the U of A, adding new capacity to complement the institution's already exceptional talent, said Lorne Babiuk, vice-president (research).

“Our seven Campus Alberta Innovates Program chairs will

bring a wealth of expertise and networks to enhance the University of Alberta's strengths as Alberta's flagship university,” said Babiuk. “Their research will find solutions to important questions, challenges and opportunities that matter to Albertans, driving the diversification of our economy and improving health outcomes.”

CAIP chairs are seven-year appointments designed to attract talent from outside Alberta. So far, the U of A has recruited five chairs after international searches, with two others underway.

Emilson Silva started last July as chair of Innovation Policy and Technology Translation in Water and Energy, after six years at the Ivan Allen College School of Economics at the Georgia Institute of Technology. During his first visit to the U of A nearly three years ago, Silva was impressed with the research climate and the opportunity to work closely with other disciplines as well as industry and government.

“I saw the U of A as a unique opportunity to come here and work on topics that not only would interest me, but also would offer the possibility of making contributions to society and potentially shape economic policy that would be desirable from a social standpoint,



Emilson Silva

for Canada and for other countries,” he said.

Silva's research uses a tool called game theory to develop models to rationalize and forecast behaviour. In the past he has spent considerable time looking at government practices in environmental and energy policy, climate change and acid rain. His position at the U of A provides an opportunity to study oil and gas producers and how they interact with government officials and regulations, he said.

CAIP chairs at the U of A

The University of Alberta has recruited five of its seven CAIP chairs after international searches.

Babis Kalodimos, Structural Biology of Protein Mis-Folding Disease (Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry)

Hugh MacIsaac, Integrated Watershed Management and Aquatic Ecosystem Health (Faculty of Science)

Inga Moock, Enhanced Geothermal Energy Systems (Faculty of Science)

Emilson Silva, Innovation Policy and Technology Translation in Water and Energy (Alberta School of Business)

Joao Soares, Interfacial Polymer Engineering for Oilsands Processing (Faculty of Engineering)

Recruitment is underway for chairs in Food Security and in Nutrition Microbes and Gastrointestinal Health.

“In these few months I've been able to connect with people in both industry and government, and the environment I've encountered here for research has been very encouraging.” ■

New registrar welcomed

Folio Staff

The University of Alberta has a new vice-provost and university registrar. Lisa M. Collins joins the U of A team July 1.

Collins comes to her new appointment from the University of British Columbia, where she currently serves as project director and associate registrar of enrolment services. She'll be taking over the position of vice-provost and university registrar from Gerry Kendal, whose appointment ends June 30.

Collins' appointment was approved by the U of A board of governors at its Feb. 8 meeting.

“Ms. Collins is a rising star in Canada's professional community of registrars, and we are excited to welcome her to the University of Alberta,” said Martin Ferguson-Pell, acting provost and vice-president (academic).

Through her work at UBC, Collins has proven leadership and experience in administration of student-centred enrolment services, admissions, and high-level strategic advising on major initiatives, policy-making and policy interpretation.

“Ms. Collins shares with the University of Alberta a vision that is student-centred and supports the academic journey from start to finish,” Ferguson-Pell said. “Her talent will add to the exciting dynamic that thrives on our campuses.”

Collins holds a master of library and information studies from UBC and a bachelor of arts, majoring in French studies, from York University. She also has certificates in college and university administration from the University of Manitoba and is working toward a certificate in strategic leadership from UBC's Sauder School of Business.

Drawn to the U of A's dynamic energy and talented people, Collins is excited about contributing to the institution's ongoing success.

“The University of Alberta has, in the last decade, stepped onto the world stage as a leading Canadian university, and I'm inspired by the strength of its reputation, the quality of its education and research programs and the ambition reflected in everything the U of A says and does,” she said.

Collins sees the Office of the Registrar as playing a key role in helping the U of A achieve its ongoing goals as outlined in *Dare to Discover*.

“We are uniquely positioned to support the academic enterprise, and to facilitate for students the business of being students, so it frees them to participate in learning activities. We play a role in supporting all four pillars of the university's vision, working with the campus community, and I look forward to being a part of that.” ■



New registrar Lisa Collins

Provost to look at future of universities

Continued from page 1

“During his professional leave, Amrhein has been focusing on global issues and the impact that they will have on Canadian post-secondary institutions in the coming decades.

“My goal is to gain an understanding of these issues—economic, political, policy-related—and develop strategies for the U of A and other Canadian universities.”

Carl Amrhein

“My goal is to gain an understanding of these issues—economic, political, policy-related—and develop strategies for the U of A and other Canadian universities as we become more global in scope and impact,” Amrhein said.

This work caught the attention of the Conference Board of Canada, where Amrhein will collaborate with executives and researchers to help create the board's Centre on the Future of Post-Secondary Education.

“The fact that the Conference Board has tapped our provost to serve in this role reflects well not only on his achievements and standing within the Canadian

post-secondary sector, but also on the University of Alberta as a thought-leader and innovator in the sector,” Samarasekera said. “This is a fantastic opportunity for Dr. Amrhein and for the U of A.”

Amrhein's activities as visiting executive will include conducting research and publishing findings on the future of universities; exploring topics including the structures and role of research-intensive universities, the contribution of universities to innovation and commercialization, and the relationships of universities with employers and industry; and convening and working with groups of university leaders and experts to examine university issues and explore options for change.

“The overarching theme of my work throughout my current leave and term with the Conference Board is the role of modern universities in contemporary society, and ways that a productive, high-quality educational experience prepares students—both undergraduate and graduate—to contribute to contemporary society in meaningful ways,” he said.

“The Conference Board of Canada is a highly respected, non-partisan research organization and is in a position to lead discussions on public policy and economic issues that directly affect our university and our peers across Canada. I look forward to contributing to these important discussions.” ■

Awareness campaign shows 'What's Next' at U of A

Michael Brown

Over more than a century pursuing excellence in their chosen fields, the University of Alberta's faculty, staff, students and alumni have built an international reputation that precedes Alberta's flagship post-secondary institution.

And while the past triumphs that weave the university's unsurpassed reputation are known far and wide, creating awareness of the here-and-now accomplishments being played out in labs and classrooms across the U of A spectrum is discovery's biggest challenge.

To meet this challenge, the university embarked on a campaign entitled "What's Next" Feb. 11 in an effort to raise awareness of the University of Alberta across Canada.

The campaign is using print and out-of-home advertising, online advertising and radio, and will be featured in such publications as *National Geographic*, *Globe and Mail*, *Vancouver Sun* and *Maclean's*. The letters are being showcased on large posters and banners on elevators in the Toronto airport and other targeted business buildings.

"Competition among research universities is aggressive, with many institutions using paid media to position themselves," said Debra Pozega Osburn, U of A vice-president (university relations). "In recent memory, this is not something the University of Alberta has done in any significant way."

Pozega Osburn says the What's Next campaign connects to the university's promise of "uplifting the whole people" by fostering awareness in some people who might not be aware of who we are and what we do at the U of A.

"Awareness is the starting point of reputation," said Pozega Osburn. "A good reputation is the foundation of

WHAT'S NEXT.



Debra Pozega Osburn

securing the talent and the resources we need to deliver on our missions of teaching, research and service."

She says the campaign will not focus on past achievements, but will shine a light on those pursuing "What's Next."

At the heart of the campaign is a series of letters in which members of the campus community describe the amazing projects they are working on and why they matter, all while explaining the university community's vision for the future and highlighting the U of A's provincial, national and global impact.

Some examples of the stories the campaign focuses on include Sirish Shah, who has taken his imaging technology intended for improving oilsands sustainability and used it to diagnose malaria; Crystal Theodore, an undergraduate student and member of a team that is taking paper no longer suitable for recycling and converting it to useful compounds like those required for the anti-flu drug Tamiflu; and Kris Wells and the work of Camp fYrefly and the No Homophobes campaign.

All advertising will direct viewers to the What's Next website, which hosts a series of two-minute videos with members of the campus community telling their own story of What's Next. Videos will be added throughout the campaign.

"Fostering pride and understanding in an institution like the U of A is important if people are to understand how relevant the University of Alberta is to their daily lives," said Pozega Osburn. "This is something that modern universities need to do today to stand out from the sea of information and reach people in a way that allows them to understand how important we still are to them." ■

ALES in on food-for-health pact

Michel Proulx

The Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences has teamed up with New Zealand's University of Auckland to develop a major food-for-health initiative.

"This is a commitment by the two institutions to build a world-class food-for-health research and outreach program," said John Kennelly, dean of the Faculty of ALES, who spearheaded the University of Alberta's efforts that led to the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the two institutions. "We'll build the program primarily through grad student exchanges, professor exchanges and, of course, a top-notch research program."

Kennelly said that food for health is a key strategy for Alberta, for Canada and for countries around the world to transform disease-based health-care models into more sustainable prevention-based models.

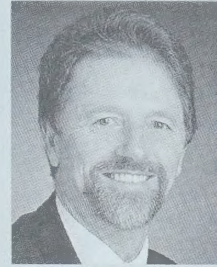
"Nutrition is a key component of that transformation," he said. "Over time, by appropriate nutritional intervention, you maintain a healthier population and reduce the incidence of the four major chronic diseases: obesity, diabetes, cancer and heart disease."

Kennelly added the partnership fits very well into the U of A's vision of transforming the Alberta Institute for Human Nutrition into the Centre for Nutrition and Health.

Kennelly explained that the University of Auckland decided a few years ago to focus much more of its research efforts on the link between food and health. New Zealand has a significant agriculture industry, with its food and forestry sectors accounting for 64 per cent of its exports earnings and 12 per cent of its gross domestic product. The country is the world's largest exporter of dairy products and sheep meat.

As the University of Auckland was developing its vision, it performed an environmental scan and identified the U of A as a good partner with significant expertise in the area. As a result, the University of Auckland's dean of science came to the U of A last year to discuss opportunities, and a framework for collaboration was eventually agreed upon.

"We would like to see food for health built as a University of Alberta area of excellence, and this partnership is a key step in moving forward. We believe the U of A is uniquely positioned to be a leader in this area," said Kennelly. ■



John Kennelly

NSERC funding for researchers

Germany. The German lab is equipped with a machine normally used for slicing large silicon wafers for satellite solar panels, allowing them to produce and analyze smooth, precise tree-ring samples. "With an electromagnetic resistance sensor, you can get a record of how fast that tree was putting on wood," Hamann explains.

"We will be able to identify particular provenances, particular source locations, that grow well compared with others—that handle drought events well, without mortality or severe reduction in growth, or without lasting damage."

Hayes, a researcher in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, received \$413,080 for his research project on engineering bimetallic catalysts for energy and environmental applications.

Collaborating with support from department colleague Natalia Semagina, and from industry and researchers at the University of Saskatchewan, Hayes will use the grant to help develop a new class of bimetallic catalysts.

Hayes said that he and his research team will examine and manipulate nanoparticle placement in bimetallic catalysts in an effort to develop "designer catalysts, so to speak, that work at lower temperatures, and have a high conversion efficiency and a longer lifespan than currently used catalysts."

Catalytic combustion is used in vehicles, for example, to reduce harmful emissions. Extending the life of the bimetallic catalyst increases the time before the vehicles start to produce environmentally harmful byproducts. These catalysts also have numerous applications in the energy and environment sector, such as in oil upgrading, flue gas treatment, water remediation and fuel cells.

"Fusion energy has been 20 years in the future since 1960."

Robert Fedosejevs

Fedosejevs, a researcher in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, will receive \$447,150 over three years for his project, entitled "Fusion Energy—Advanced Ignition Techniques and Target Fabrication."

Fusion energy is created by fusing together two isotopes of hydrogen into an element with a higher atomic number. The lighter nuclei of the two atoms bind and give off energy. However, because both nuclei are positively charged, they repel each other, making it difficult to get close enough to fuse them.

To solve this problem, researchers have turned to high-powered

lasers. They irradiate a fuel pellet with a laser pulse until it becomes 100 times more dense and reaches a temperature around 100 degrees centigrade. But they're still not sure how much laser energy is needed.

Pursuing a clean, efficient, plentiful source of energy has been a goal of science for decades, and fusion might be the best option to achieve this. It bests nuclear fission power by being significantly safer and produces no radioactive waste as a byproduct, just helium gas. As well, hydrogen isotopes are readily available all over the world thanks to seawater. And the fuel needed to run a large plant is minuscule—about a truckload of fuel has the same energy output as thousands of train cars of coal.

Best of all, it doesn't produce greenhouse gases.

"Fusion energy has been 20 years in the future since 1960," he said. "But I think we're really much closer to that being true today. If we can discover the ignition threshold in the next year or two, we're about 10 years away from an engineering-prototype reactor. Once we have that, we're about another 10 years away from a first-generation commercial reactor."

"The key question right now is, 'Can we make it work?' And we think we're getting very close with lasers." ■

—With notes from Nicole Basaraba, Richard Cairney, Ryan Heise and Scott Rollans

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Graduate student residence makes the sustainability grade

Folio Staff

Environmentally conscious graduate students who want to live on campus at the University of Alberta have a place they can be proud to call home.

The U of A's Graduate Residence in East Campus Village was awarded a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver designation by the Canadian Green Building Council. LEED is used to benchmark and recognize the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings.

“It was important for us to build sustainable residences because it reflects the values of society. The university and our students expect it.”

Doug Dawson

The drive for sustainable design came from within the project team. Representatives from the Graduate Students' Association, Ancillary Services, and Planning and Project Delivery, working with the design and construction team of Hodgson Schilf Architects and Chandos, made sustainability a high priority in the planning and delivery of the project from conception to completion.

Completed in the fall of 2010, the Graduate Residence is the first residence to open on the U of A's North Campus since International House in 2004. A lot has changed since 2004, including the university's commitment to sustainability and reducing its environmental footprint.



Graduate Residence in East Campus Village was awarded a LEED Silver designation for sustainable design.

“It was important for us to build sustainable residences because it reflects the values of society,” said Doug Dawson, executive director of ancillary services. “The university and our students expect it. Students in North America often make choices about the school they will attend based on the value the institution places on things like the environment.”

The LEED Silver certification was awarded to the project, comprising four new buildings along 87 Avenue and 110 Street, for meeting or exceeding performance in five key areas of human and environmental health—sustainable site development, water efficiency, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

The building site itself was a sustainable choice because it uses existing services such as

utilities, access to transit and parking facilities. Other green features include erosion control, on-site bicycle storage, water-efficient landscaping with no irrigation, and access to regional building materials.

In addition to the sustainable features, the project also needed to fall in line with design guidelines for infill development that the university developed with the adjacent community in 2007. It needed to maintain the scale and general character of the surrounding neighbourhood and respect the architecture of existing buildings, the concept of community and the natural beauty of the area.

“The designers were able to respect the craftsman style of the homes in the adjacent community, and incorporate state-of-the-art technology and design elements to

dramatically reduce the environmental footprint,” explained Dawson.

The high-density housing features dual-flush toilets, low-flow faucets, low-energy elevators, energy-efficient lighting, a green housekeeping program, a green education program, centrally located recycling and refuse collection areas, and energy-efficient heating, ventilation and air-conditioning equipment.

Dawson is happy Residence Services staff members have also rallied behind the operation of the sustainably built residences.

“It's exciting for our staff to be engaged in doing something new,” he said. “We are an institution of higher learning, and we need to lead in these areas and set the benchmark higher each time.”

Residence Services is in the process of building two more sustainable residences in East Campus Village. This new project is targeting a rating of Four Green Globes, which is equivalent to the LEED Silver rating.

The U of A strives to be a leader in sustainability and aims to model sustainable practices whenever possible. The university is seeking certification for environmental design on a number of ongoing and recently completed building projects on campus.

These projects include the Edmonton Clinic Health Academy, which is pursuing LEED Silver; the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science, which is pursuing LEED Silver; the Medical Isotope and Cyclotron Facility, which is pursuing Four Green Globes; the Camrose Performing Arts Centre, which is pursuing Three Green Globes; the Innovation Centre for Engineering, which is pursuing LEED Gold; the Cooling Plant on Campus, which is pursuing LEED Silver; and the Physical Activity and Wellness Centre, which is pursuing Four Green Globes. ■

Science power couple receive his-and-hers Sloan Research Fellowships

Julie Naylor

Valentine's Day got a little bit sweeter for the husband-and-wife team of John P. Davis and Juli Gibbs-Davis. Both have received a Sloan Research Fellowship, the University of Alberta's first in over 40 years.

Nominated by their peers and chosen by a distinguished panel of senior scholars, the Sloan Research Fellows represent the next generation of leaders in the natural sciences, economics and mathematics. The two-year, \$50,000 fellowships are awarded yearly to 126 researchers throughout North America in recognition of their distinguished performance and potential to make substantial contributions to their field. Sloan Research Fellows have gone on to win 38 Nobel prizes, 14 Fields Medals in mathematics, and eight John Bates Clark awards in economics.

Gibbs-Davis found out about the Sloan results when her husband called to say he had won a fellowship. “My first thought was, ‘That's fantastic!’ My second thought was, ‘I didn't win one.’ He said they'd emailed, so I checked my email while he was on the phone, and sure enough, I had received one too. Both of us winning in the same year is seriously very, very cool.”

“I was thrilled to learn that two of our researchers have been named 2013 Sloan Research Fellows,” said President Indira Samarasekera. “This recognition represents the calibre of the research performed at the University of Alberta. My congratulations to our Sloan Research Fellows on this exceptional accomplishment so early into their promising young careers.”

Gibbs-Davis came to the U of A in 2008 as an assistant professor in chemistry. Her research focuses on the interplay between understanding and controlling molecular recognition, research that has led to exciting discoveries in areas



Valentine's Day was a little sweeter for Juli Gibbs-Davis and John Davis, who were both named Sloan Research Fellows.

ranging from fundamental surface science to DNA detection. “We are using molecular recognition to achieve new functions that are promising in multi-component drug delivery,” explained Gibbs-Davis.

She recently won a \$100,000 grant from the Canadian Rising Stars in Global Health Grand Challenges to develop a system to detect unique DNA sequences associated with a host of infectious bacteria like TB and malaria, making diagnosis cheap and easy to administer.

Davis, an assistant professor in physics, studies low-temperature physics. After a two-year post-doc with U of A's Mark Freeman, Davis joined the condensed matter physics research group as a faculty member. “Since then, the Faculty of Science has been fantastic to me,” he said, “constructing an amazing lab space for me and giving me the startup funding I needed to get my lab up and running.” And what a lab it is.

Built in the sub-basement of the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science, the lab will have the distinction of being the coldest laboratory in Canada when it is up and running in March: -273 C.

“That kind of temperature gives us access to research in superconductivity, which is the transmission of electric current with absolutely no resistance,” Davis said, explaining that one goal of superconductivity experiments is to find materials that one day could be made to work with zero electrical resistance at more practical temperatures.

“The holy grail of superconductivity is to find a material that eliminates resistance at room temperature,” Davis said. “That's when superconductivity could have applications for everyday life.”

“John and Juli's success makes public something that we already knew: the Faculty of Science continues to hire researchers with outstanding potential,” said Jonathan Schaeffer, dean of science. “We are delighted that the international community recognizes their impressive achievements.”

The Sloan Foundation believes that a carefully reasoned and systematic understanding of the forces of nature and society, when applied inventively and wisely, can lead to a better world for all. It is interested in projects that it expects will result in a strong benefit to society, and for which funding from the private sector, the government or other foundations is not widely available.

“Many of the finest and most influential scientists in North America have been Sloan fellows and it is a tremendous honour to be included with this group,” commented Gibbs-Davis, whose PhD and post-doc supervisors were Sloan Research Fellowship recipients. “I am also really proud to represent this university and my department. I tell my students that you can do anything you can think of here, we have such amazing resources.”

Davis, whose graduate supervisor was also a Sloan Research Fellow, echoes his spouse's sentiments. “In large part, this fellowship is simply a consequence of those faculty who have trained and mentored me—my graduate advisor William P. Halperin, my post-doc advisor Mark Freeman and my faculty mentor John Beamish—and the wonderful folks working with me in the lab.”

And although it seems 2013 couldn't get much better for this scientific powerhouse, they are expecting their first child this summer. ■

'Together We Can' makes award-winning CASE

Folio Staff

Cold, but well worth it. Boldly articulating that sentiment about Edmonton has garnered three prestigious communications awards for the University of Alberta's case for philanthropic support, *Together We Can*.

"The *Together We Can* case shows the pride and optimism of our donors, students and researchers, who elevate the University of Alberta to a world-class level through their teaching, discovery and innovation," said O'Neil Outar, U of A vice-president of advancement. "It illustrates that philanthropic support enables the University of Alberta to reach for the margin of excellence that distinguishes us on the global stage."

The awards come from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District VIII Conference. The *Together We Can* video took home the coveted gold award in the category of fundraising and alumni relations videos. The accompanying document won two awards—silver in the fundraising brochures category, and bronze for development writing.

The Alberta School of Business was also awarded gold for its annual report, *Alberta Bound. Alberta Bond. All We Need Is U*; the Faculty of Arts won silver in the design improvement category for its *Viewbook*; and Alumni Relations took home bronze for magazine illustration for its *New Trail* Spring 2012 cover image.

"Being part of an organization with this kind of acumen is inspiring. The University of Alberta



Blue Knox gives heartfelt thanks to the donors who supported her program as part of the 'Together We Can' case for support.

has tremendous potential—it has ambition, groundbreaking research and award-winning students, and it continues to push the boundaries of what is possible," added Outar. "We are growing a fundraising and alumni relations program that has the potential to be one of the best in the world. That means telling the stories of the students, faculty and alumni with such incredible passion to make a difference."

The CASE District VIII Communications Awards competition included entries from colleges and universities in Alberta, Alaska, British Columbia, Idaho, Manitoba, Montana, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Oregon, Saskatchewan, Washington and the Yukon. CASE is one of the world's largest non-profit educational associations, including more than 3,600 colleges and universities, primary and secondary independent and international schools, and non-profit organizations in 76 countries. View the award-winning *Together We Can* document and video at giving.ualberta.ca.

To explore career options with the Office of Advancement, visit advancement.ualberta.ca.

CASE Bronze

Marcey Andrews, senior graphic designer with University of Alberta Marketing and Communications, won a bronze award in the 2013 CASE District VIII Communications Awards in the category of photography and illustration for her design of the Spring 2012 *New Trail* Alumni Magazine cover.



Alumni couple's generous gift born of deep commitment

Christie Hutchinson

Paulette ('80 BCom) and Tony ('79 BCom) Lashuk know something about commitment. The high-school sweethearts committed to each other in marriage while they attended the Alberta School of Business together. They committed to their financial goals and achieved them. And they have now made one of the largest-ever bequest commitments to the University of Alberta—a \$5-million gift to endow an "innovation fund," representing a deep commitment to the institution and the future.

The fund will provide financing to support the inventive ideas and work of students, faculty, staff and researchers in the faculties of engineering and science. The Lashuks say they hope their gift will help teach the next generation of creators and innovators at the U of A, and support research into new technologies that can help solve the challenges the world will face in the future.

"The University of Alberta has a long history of developing



University sweethearts Paulette and Tony Lashuk have made a \$5-million gift to the U of A to fund future innovation.

innovation in science, technology and engineering that power our economy and transform society," says President Indira Samarasekera. "A gift like this inspires our best efforts. It will support a wide variety of groundbreaking projects and activities, advance important future study and research, and enable the University of Alberta community to explore a wide range of creative, scientific and technical endeavours."

After attending high school and university together, and since retiring from successful careers in the corporate world—Paulette as an accountant and Tony as a stockbroker—the couple has been enjoying a simple lifestyle at their waterfront property near Lone Pine, Alberta.

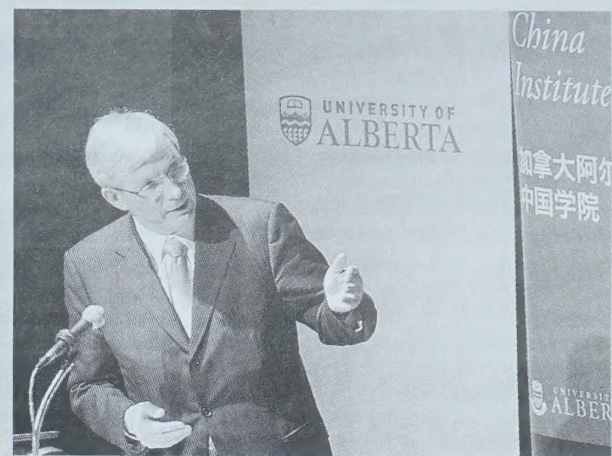
They are now in a position to leave a legacy at their alma mater

that satisfies their desire to be a part of something bigger in the future.

"There are times I wish I could come back to university to study engineering or computing science—do something creative, make things," admits Tony. "Engineers and innovative people are in short supply, so we wanted to do our part to ensure there are more of them in our society in the future."

"I feel great that maybe we'll be part of some innovation down the road," says Paulette. "Maybe someone will find a cleaner way to utilize oilsands or something like that—who knows. Alberta is very fortunate," she adds. "We've got a lot of resources, but that may not always be the case. This gift is our way of encouraging diversification of our economy."

Reading winds of change in China



Guy Saint-Jacques, Canada's ambassador to China, made the U of A his first stop in Western Canada to discuss the implications of China's upcoming leadership change—and the impact the U of A is having in a country that is now Alberta's second-biggest trading partner. "More than 475 active agreements between Canadian and Chinese institutions are in place, and I'm especially pleased to note the extensive links that the University of Alberta has developed with China," he said. "This is really a role model that you can be very proud of."

C-section, formula feeding affect babies' gut bacteria

Raquel Maurier

Caesarean section delivery and formula feeding appear to change the bacteria footprint in babies' guts, according to new University of Alberta medical findings.

Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry researcher Anita Kozyrskyj and her colleagues across Canada published their findings in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*. Her team studied bacteria found in fecal samples from 24 healthy babies in Manitoba. The samples were collected when the babies were about four months old and examined using high-tech DNA sequencing methods. The infants are part of the Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) study, which enrolled pregnant women from four Canadian cities.

The team noted babies born by C-section didn't have a specific group of bacteria found in babies born via vaginal delivery—even if they were breastfed. And babies who were strictly formula-fed had a different bacterial makeup than babies who were exclusively or partially breastfed.

"It's the first North American study of healthy infants to look at gut bacteria," said Kozyrskyj.

"The initial step for us was to report on the changes to the gut bacteria based on interventions like C-section delivery or formula feeding. Our next step is to answer the question, 'Does this bacteria footprint make a difference in terms of child health?' We will look for conditions like kids' wheeze, allergies, and whether they were affected by gut bacteria changes associated with breastfeeding and C-section."

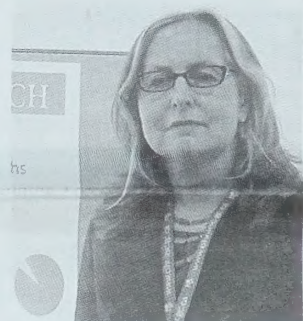
Meghan Azad, a post-doctoral student of Kozyrskyj's, added, "We want parents to realize that the decisions they make regarding C-sections and breastfeeding can affect the infants' gut bacteria—and that can have potentially lifelong effects on their children."

Of the 24 babies in the study, half boys and half girls, six (25 per cent) were born via C-section, 10 (41 per cent) were exclusively breastfed, five (21 per cent) were partially breastfed and nine (38 per cent) were not breastfed. These percentages are representative of national statistics.

The next step for Kozyrskyj and her research team is to do larger studies—the first one involving 200 babies and the following one examining data from 2,500 infants, including infants in Edmonton. Her team was one of seven teams in Canada to receive \$2.5 million in funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Microbiome Initiative.

Kozyrskyj, an epidemiologist, is an associate professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the U of A, and the Women and Children's Health Research Institute research chair in maternal-child health and the environment. U of A team members included colleagues from the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology and the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences. The team also included members from Ontario and Manitoba.

The research was funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. The CHILD study was funded by CIHR and AllerGen NCE.



Anita Kozyrskyj

Virtual patient simulation has award-winning prof going back to school

Geoff McMaster

She's a skilled pediatrician, a recipient of the 3M National Teaching Fellowship and a McCalla professor. If she were looking to rest on her laurels, it's not a bad list.

But that's not Sarah Forgie's style. In fact, she's going back to school, so to speak, pursuing a master's degree in education. Not because she needs the credentials, but simply, "because it's cool."

"I want to learn more; I want to make connections," she says. "I love teaching, but I never really understood why some things worked and others didn't."

Forgie's master's project in health sciences education is a new tool for teaching medical students to think like specialists. She's developing a virtual-patient application that works much like a game, encouraging users to interactively reason their way through a problem, such as an ear infection. It's all part of the new wave in pedagogy called competency-based learning.

The application—called VICToRS, or Virtual Interprofessional Case-Learning Tools for Improving Real Service—is an extension of another successful virtual learning tool, LiveBook, which Forgie developed with Eleni Stroulia and her team from the Department of Computing Science. The cross-disciplinary project, supported by the U of A's Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund, involves the contributions of four faculties, including medicine and dentistry,



Sarah Forgie

science, education and even arts (industrial design) for the interface.

The exercise in simulation works like a game because of the emphasis on trial and error, says Forgie. The user scrolls, for example, over an image of the human body, stopping at the ear. At that point an infection might arise, and the user has to figure out what questions to ask or what labs to order for more information to eventually figure out what's causing the infection and how to treat it.

TLEF

"You have to choose the right path," she says. "It gives students a chance to try out clinical reasoning in a safe environment, in their own time and pace, and work through the way an expert would work through a case."

Forgie's plan over the next several months is to interview experts on infections, figuring out exactly where they branch out in their reasoning to solve a particular case. She'll then build that information into the software so a novice can mimic what an expert thinker does.

Forgie says she hopes VICToRS will be ready to test with students by this summer.

"I'm really excited, because I think there are so many places it can go, and others can use it too," she says, including physical therapists, nurses or anyone who could benefit from an interactive store of case studies.

She insists it's the interaction between disciplines that makes her tool so successful. "I think about the university as being a big brain, and we're all neurons. You put a bunch of neurons together, and by themselves they're not very cohesive. But it's the connections that make a brain smart. That's what interdisciplinary research is."

When asked, partly in jest, what degree she'd like to bag next—perhaps fine arts?—she takes the bait: "I've actually thought about that ... I think that would be cool too." ■

Command centre operator rides adrenalin rush staff spotlight

Geoff McMaster

From his perch in the U of A's Communication Control Centre, Mario Bertovic has seen, or heard, it all. Whether it's campus fires, chemical spills, gas leaks, passed-out drunks or flashers in the library, the first call always comes to his desk.

His main job is to operate and monitor all the mechanical systems in more than 100 buildings across campus—heating and cooling systems for air and water, electrical systems, fire and radiation alarms, freezers, incubators, animal rooms and level-three facilities housing viruses. Surrounding him are computer monitors with all manner of schematics pulsing with real-time data.

"If I could describe my dream job, this would be pretty close to it," says Bertovic, who has been working in his current post with Facilities and Operations in the General Services Building for eight years, and on campus for more than 30.

"You tend to do a lot of problem solving, a lot of analyzing. And you're working on your own with no one directing you in any way."

He admits the command desk is not for everyone. The shifts are extreme: two days, followed by two nights, then three days—and lots of weekends. But he says the adrenalin rush is pronounced, and you never know what to expect from shift to shift.

"Some days, you swear it's going to be calm," he says. "It's beautiful weather, middle of summer, no students, and you figure it's going to be nice and quiet."

"Then all of a sudden all hell will break loose. A car hits a power pole on Whyte Ave. that kills half the power on campus, all the alarms start rolling in and the phones start lighting up. Your first time, you think, 'Where do I even start?' There can be a lot of pressure, because you have to make snap decisions."

In those situations, Bertovic will call in technicians to deal with any systems that need immediate attention. If it's winter, things become more urgent because of the danger of freezing and pipes bursting. More dangerous situations require calling in ambulances or the fire department.

His other responsibility, however, is fielding questions from people who dial the U of A's 25555 emergency number, which often involves quelling panic on the other end of the line.

Sometimes, he says, he just has to shake his head. "Someone will call and say, 'There's a fire alarm going off, what should I do?'" Bertovic will muster his patience and respond, "Well, what do you normally do when you hear an alarm—leave the building!"

He recalls one heated, late-night call from an elevator full of students trapped and packed like sardines—"all really drunk



Mario Bertovic operates and monitors all the university's mechanical systems.

and belligerent"—coming down from Room at the Top (RATT) in the Students' Union Building.

"If you get stuck at that time, you're typically waiting for up to 45 minutes," says Bertovic. "The call comes to us, but we have to call an elevator technician, and it takes him a while to get here." In the end, the students were forced to write a letter of apology for their abusive language because, as Bertovic points out, everything is recorded.

"The common misconception is that there is someone here 24/7 to take care of problems, and that's just not the case. Somebody here will know about it, but if a person is stuck in an elevator, or there is a massive pipe

leak late at night or on the weekend, technicians have to be called in."

Bertovic was the point man when a fire broke out in a chemistry lab a few years ago, and he was on the desk during last year's HUB Mall incident. At this point, he takes it all in stride. Over the course of his three-decade career on campus, he says, "I've covered everything from janitorial work to maintenance work. I've been a supervisor for a number of years, building manager for a while and then here at the control centre."

He says he has no desire to go anywhere else. "I like the university. The people here are really nice, and working with them is fabulous. It's a great community." ■

INNOVATION

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Above Water: Learning From Three Albertan Leaders

Tom Axworthy, O.C.

President and CEO of the Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation

Drawing on lessons from Alberta's leadership, Dr. Axworthy will discuss Canada's looming water crisis. As head of one of Canada's largest foundations dedicated to protecting water and empowering the North, Dr. Axworthy has had a distinguished career in government, academia and philanthropy.

This event is free and open to all. Refreshments will be served.

Date: February 25, 2013 Time: 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Location: Telus Centre TEL-150, 111 Street and 87 Avenue NW

University of Alberta North Campus

RSVP and information: www.innovativeleaders.ualberta.ca

Female athletes overcome adversity

Bryan Alary

Elite female athletes often feel a sense of isolation and pressure to tackle personal and professional adversity on their own—even while struggling with issues such as bullying, eating disorders, depression and sexual abuse, according to research from the University of Alberta.

Researchers interviewed high-performance elite female athletes to better understand the types of adversity they face, and more important, how they overcome it, learn from it and grow.

"Through a process of dealing with an event and searching for meaning in that event, individuals can grow in different areas of their lives," said lead author Katherine Tamminen. "It can be changing a sense of priorities in your life, it can be identifying closer relationships in others, or gaining a sense of personal strength; however, growth is not guaranteed."

Tamminen, who completed the work as part of her PhD studies in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, explains that the study focused on female athletes because men and women deal with adversity in different ways, with women more likely than men to report personal growth.

For the study, she conducted one-on-one interviews with five athletes, aged 18 to 23 years, who collectively reported experiencing issues such as bullying, eating disorders, performance slumps, conflict with coaches, sexual abuse and preoccupation with suicide.

As "elite" athletes, many reported an overwhelming sense of pressure to succeed and cope with their issues without affecting training or competition—which often led to social withdrawal and feelings of isolation, of "living in a bubble," says Tamminen, now a post-doctoral fellow at the University of British Columbia.

Some of the women reported feeling a sense of physical or mental toughness following adversity—a sense of knowing their limits—whereas others are still struggling through their issues.

Although some of the participants eventually reached out to family and friends for social support, it wasn't until they joined the study and learned about others' issues that these athletes realized they were not



Researchers found that elite female athletes often feel they have to take on personal and professional adversity by themselves.

alone. Many told their stories as a way to give back and shed light on their issues, Tamminen says.

"For them that's part of the process of dealing with their issues and dealing with the aftermath of these experiences," she says.

Co-author Nick Holt, a professor in physical education and recreation, said high-performance athletes derive much of their identity from being at the elite level, and this research contains valuable lessons not only for other athletes, but also for coaches, family members and even non-athletes.

"It's not like the cliché interview at the end of a hockey game where the team coped with adversity because they weren't playing well," Holt says. "It's about dealing with these really personally challenging incidents—many talked about being 'destroyed,' being 'crushed' and 'hitting rock bottom'—and there are lessons to be learned here."

The research was funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and was published in the January issue of *Psychology of Sport and Exercise*. ■

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Easier booking lightens load for campus travellers

Michael Brown

Booking travel at the University of Alberta is about to have a new look and be even easier.

After a mandated request for proposals, Maritime Travel will take over from Uniglobe Geo Travel as the university's new travel supplier, bringing with it a state-of-the-art online booking tool. The change is effective March 1.

"Having a good booking tool is extremely important these days because you want people to be very comfortable using the booking tool," said Linda Warner, manager with Travel Management Services. "I hear it all the time: 'The booking tool we have doesn't look like Expedia so it's not very user-friendly.' We believe we have a booking tool that is one of the best in the industry and looks very much like the bigger-name tools."

"We feel people will be much more comfortable with the booking tool."

Warner says this online travel booking tool, named CONCUR, is one of the best in the travel industry, is free and will feature U of A airline contracts—WestJet and Cathay Pacific Airways—as well as access to the best available airfares and direct connect to Air Canada.

Warner says easier online booking should also help those who only book travel through a travel agent.



Linda Warner is hosting a series of seminars to help travel arrangers learn about the new travel supplier.

"Booking online is free, whereas using a travel agent isn't," said Warner. "You would be surprised to see how many people don't book online. There is a cost savings there, so hopefully the new online booking tool will increase the adoption rate of booking online."

Warner says the university's central billing system ensures the traveller is never out of pocket and cuts costs by eliminating duplication and decreasing the number of people who would otherwise have to deal with an expense claim.

All told, Warner figures the overall use of Travel Management Services to book university travel sits at about 90 per cent.

"There is very little leakage, but optimally everyone should be using us for the simple reason of cost

savings derived from our contracted airfares and central billing," she said. "Research equates to a high travel volume. We have 400 people booking travel on campus—some of whom, all they do is book travel—so from a cost-savings standpoint, it is important that everyone use us."

There are two lunch-and-learn sessions designed to introduce university travel co-ordinators to the new travel agency team, products and services. The sessions are March 7, 8:30–11:30 a.m. and noon–3 p.m. in Lister Centre's Aurora Room. RSVP by email to smstrvl@ualberta.ca.

All travellers and travel arrangers will also be required to complete a new travel profile to use the services of Maritime Travel directly or to book online. ■

Teaching Moves

Join us March 6, 2013
Maple Leaf Room, Lister Hall

Breaking Waves:
Rethinking Experiential Learning
for Community Engagement

Tara Fenwick

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Light refreshments to follow

**Campus-Community
Partnerships for Learning:**
A Panel Discussion

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

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out of the classroom
and into the community*



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Rhodes Scholar's U.K. research offers lessons for Canadian health care

Raquel Maurier

Peter Gill, a Rhodes Scholar from the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, and his research team just published findings that show a 28 per cent increase in the number of emergency hospital admissions for children in the United Kingdom over 12 years. This accounts for a total of 7.7 million hospital admissions.

Most children admitted for emergencies had conditions that could be cared for at home, such as urinary tract infections, respiratory tract infections and gastroenteritis; there were fewer admissions for kids with chronic conditions. Most of the hospital stays were very short; stays of one day or less increased twofold throughout the length of the study.

The findings were published in the peer-reviewed journal *Archives of Disease in Childhood*, a subsidiary publication of the *British Medical Journal*. The study looked at admissions for children under the age of 15, noting a steady increase each year since 2003. Emergency admissions of children under the age of one were particularly high, with a 52 per cent increase over the 12-year span. Admissions for children between the ages of one and four rose by 25 per cent over the same time period. In 2010, two-thirds of all children admitted to emergency were under the age of five—accounting for more than 500,000 admissions.

Gill and his team said that if the emergency hospitalization rate for children under the age of five continues at this rate, about 731,000 children in this age group will be admitted to hospital in the U.K. in 2020.

"We were surprised how high and how substantial the increase was, particularly for the same-day, short stays, which likely suggests these children don't necessarily need to be admitted to hospital," said Gill. "These children could likely be cared for at home or in the community setting."

The research team noted hospital admissions are costly and can put children at increased risk



Peter Gill, a Rhodes Scholar from the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, published findings showing a dramatic rise in emergency hospital admissions for children in the U.K.

"It's a fairly controversial topic because everyone wants to point a finger at who is to blame."

Peter Gill

of "hospital-acquired infections, medical errors, drug reactions and emotional trauma."

Gill says there have been major policy changes to the way health care is delivered in the U.K. since 2000, such as implementing emergency wait-time targets of four hours, allowing family doctors to opt out of providing care on evenings and weekends, and rolling out a health-care phone assistance line that frequently encourages parents to take their children to the hospital. Add anxious moms and dads to the mix, as well as junior residents who are nervous about a perceived increase in the number of medical lawsuits, and there are many factors

contributing to the increase in admissions, he says.

"It's a fairly controversial topic because everyone wants to point a finger at who is to blame," Gill said. "It's so complicated, it's difficult to pin down one particular cause because there have been so many policy changes. I think it's a good idea to do studies like this after major policy changes are made to the health-care system, to see if there are any unintended negative consequences from those changes. That's why research is so important."

The Rhodes Scholar says his research is very relevant to the Canadian health-care system, noting he hopes to use the knowledge he has gained when he returns to Canada to work as a physician.

Gill is working on his PhD at Oxford University in the U.K., examining the quality of care delivered to children. He will finish his studies this summer, after which he plans to return to the U of A to finish his fourth year of medical school, then specialize in pediatrics. ■



Michelle Chan

Are billboards driving us to distraction?

Jamie Hanlon

There's a billboard up ahead, a roadside sign full of language and imagery. Next stop: the emotionally distracted zone.

One University of Alberta researcher has discovered that language used on billboards can provoke an emotional response that affects our driving abilities. And whether the words have a negative or positive connotation seems to determine whether the attention wanders or the foot gets heavier.

Lead study author Michelle Chan says that although plenty of literature exists on road rage, none of it deals with external emotional stimuli. Chan and her U of A co-author, psychology professor Anthony Singhal, devised an experiment using a driving simulator. Participants drove through one of three scenarios that exposed them to 20 billboards on the course; each billboard contained blocks of words that were positive, negative or neutral in nature. They were also tested for response by having to push a button on the steering wheel when they encountered a target word.

"Studies have shown that when subjects see an emotional stimulus as opposed to a neutral one, they're slower in making reaction time responses and they're slower when doing a visual search," said Chan. "I wanted to see whether the results would carry over in driving—would we also find more distracted performance in driving?—and we did see that."

Emotionally charged words affected the subjects' driving focus, something that may make driving in real conditions hazardous. Chan says that subjects who viewed the negative words decreased travelling speed when passing the signs and tended to drift and veer from their lane. Conversely, drivers viewing the words with positive connotations sped up when passing the signs—a response the researchers said supported other research.

"There have been studies showing that when you're positively stimulated, your attention broadens, so you perform better when you're in a happy mood," said Chan. "In my results, we also saw that when we looked at the reaction-time data in response to target words, participants actually responded faster in the positive block than in the negative block."

Chan says a precedent already exists Down Under for dealing with this type of distraction, but some places may be harder to convince than others.

"In Australia they have really strict billboard criteria, but in the United States it's less so," she said. "When you're driving in Las Vegas, you'll see a bunch of profane billboards. There are also some really graphic anti-smoking billboards around."

Chan contends that emotional distraction while driving may come from anything from music to news to conversations, so it would be hard to legislate against those types of factors. Self-regulation on the images and language marketers use on billboards could be one way to reduce potential for emotionally related vehicular incidents.

Ultimately, she says, drivers need to take responsibility for their actions behind the wheel, even if it means reducing the usual driving stimuli such as talking or listening to the radio.

"Any kind of distraction is risky when you're driving. But there would appear to be a larger risk when it comes to emotional stimuli." ■

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Bev Ethier, who won a copy of the award-winning *The Grads Are Playing Tonight!* by M. Ann Hall, U of A professor emeritus in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, as part of Folio's Feb. 8 "Are You a Winner?" contest. Barton identified the location of last issue's photo as the stage in Convocation Hall in the Old Arts Building. Up for grabs this week is another copy of the award-winning *The Grads Are Playing Tonight!* courtesy of the University of Alberta Press. To win it, simply identify where the object pictured is located and email your answer to folio@ualberta.ca by noon on Monday, March 4, and you will be entered into the draw.



Richard Semmens

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Freezing field work pays off with new knowledge

Bev Betkowski

Chantal Bromley spent a lot of shivering cold weekends at Miquelon Lake, snowshoeing her way through the stark white wilderness, notebook in hand, searching out data in the winter of 2008.

"I remember one time my professor, Glynnis Hood, made me run a bit because I was freezing up."

Not exactly ideal weekend plans for a third-year Augustana Campus student, but Bromley was exhilarated at trekking well beyond the classroom and into the field to do hands-on work. From January to April of that year, Bromley, who was studying biological science, repeatedly hiked the ponds of Miquelon Lake Provincial Park, making the rounds to record the numbers of geese as well as tracks of moose, mice, fox and other mammals who were coming to the water's edge.

Her hard-earned, teeth-chattering research—on beavers and their effects on opening winter water for Canada geese—conducted through Augustana's Directed Studies Courses, has resulted in a peer-reviewed published study in a recent issue of *Mammalian Biology* for which she shares credit with Hood—no small accomplishment for the freshly minted undergrad.

"It's great that Glynnis saw enough potential in the work we did to submit it for publication and



Chantal Bromley's treks through Miquelon Lake as an undergraduate researcher resulted in a published study showing how beavers open water for Canada geese in winter.

at an undergraduate level, it was great being able to contribute to the knowledge base," said a proud Bromley.

The study is one of the first to link beavers to early-season nesting habits of Canada geese in a northern climate and is the first to link early ice melt in ponds occupied by beavers.

Now enrolled in a Calgary architectural program to earn a master's degree, Bromley is taking what she

learned as a U of A science grad and applying it to both private and public human spaces.

"In nature, one habitat flows into the next habitat. My approach to architecture is based on what I know about biology. I try to relate to space as an ecology—an interaction of species within an environment."

During her undergrad project, which she voluntarily took on with her regular course load, Bromley

was required, like any researcher, to write a proposal, give progress reports, review existing scientific literature and present her findings at an academic conference on Augustana Campus. She also won a community competition with her environmental work.

Putting her work out there as a budding scientist fuelled her skills for successful graduate studies, Bromley said. "When you get to the master's level it is important to have the skills I learned at Augustana."

Hood, an associate professor in the Department of Science at Augustana, said Bromley's work adds to what is known about Miquelon Park. "Chantal's project was the first time the park had been researched like that. There wasn't a lot known about the park ecologically. Now it is a research hub for the campus."

Bromley's work also points to the beaver as a valuable species that helps make water available for other mammals and birds, and hers was the first park-wide survey of Miquelon's beaver population. The study findings also go to Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation for use in setting research goals, Hood noted.

The work of undergraduate researchers like Bromley "is a research engine" at Augustana Campus and enriches the scope of the student experience, she added. "The work extends much more broadly than just a course in a faculty. It's very much active learning." ■

laurels

Zenon Kohut and Frank Sysyn, professors in the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, have been honoured with the Antonovych award for 2012. Kohut received his award "for his contribution to the study of Cossack Ukraine," and Sysyn "for his contribution to scholarship in Ukraine" at an awards ceremony held Nov. 10 at the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington, D.C.

Robert Nichols, professor in the Department of Political Science, received a Humboldt Fellowship from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation to pursue research at the Humboldt Universität zu Berlin and the University of Cambridge.

Jeff Pelletier, professor in the Department of Philosophy, received the Anneliese Maier Research Award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation to promote the internationalization of humanities and social sciences in Germany.

Collaborating for Improved Health



Burns leave terrible physical and emotional scars.

While the skin grafting surgery required for severe burns is life-saving, it results in permanent disfigurement, discomfort, and psychological trauma.

Jeff Biernaskie, PhD, and Vincent Gabriel, MD, hope to improve the function of skin grafts through the use of adult stem cells. If successful, this will allow burn patients to regenerate their own skin tissue so that it looks and acts more like normal skin.

Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions' (AIHS) Collaborative Research and Innovation Opportunities (CRIO) Project supports Drs. Biernaskie and Gabriel's research as well as 20 other collaborative projects that are tackling priority issues in the areas of health, wellness, and health services so that we all benefit from the resulting innovations.

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Meet the following successful lead applicants from the peer-reviewed 2012 CRIO Project competition:

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| Dr. Arya Sharma UA
Obesity management | Dr. Hans Vogel UC
Eye disease treatment |
| Dr. Jeff Biernaskie UC
Skin graft improvement | Dr. Zelma Kiss UC
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Genetic therapy for hearts | Dr. Paul Kubes UC
Brain injury and infection |
| Dr. Gavin Oudit UA
Treating heart disease | Dr. Arindom Sen UC
Stem cells for cartilage repair |
| Dr. Boguslaw Tomanek UC
Breast cancer diagnosis | Dr. Jaynie Yang UA
Infant stroke therapies |
| Dr. Bin Hu UC
Music walking therapy for Parkinson's | UA = University of Alberta
UC = University of Calgary |
| Dr. Quentin Pittman UC
Investigating chronic neural inflammation | |
| Dr. Michael Stickland UA
Chronic lung disease management | |

Alberta



news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the stories that recently appeared on the ualberta.ca news page. To read more, go to www.news.ualberta.ca.

Law professor appointed to Court of Queen's Bench

Russell Brown in the Faculty of Law was appointed to the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench, in Edmonton. Brown leaves the U of A as an associate professor and associate dean of graduate studies in the U of A's law school, and a research fellow of the Health Law and Science Policy Group.

"I have been a very lucky person," said Brown. "I have had terrific colleagues and students, and have been fortunate to work with dedicated staff. I hope to maintain a close connection to the University of Alberta law school, and am looking forward to joining the ranks of its foot soldiers in the judiciary."

"At a personal level I would like to thank Russ Brown for his many contributions to the Faculty of Law, and in particular his service as associate dean of graduate studies," said Philip Bryden, dean of law. "Russ has done a superb job as a member of our administrative team, and I will miss his contributions to our work. I have every confidence that Russ will make an equally outstanding contribution to the work of Alberta's judiciary, and I wish him every success in his new career."

Researcher honoured for 24-year collaboration

This year, Marg Iveson, professor of English language arts in secondary education, celebrates the 24th and final year of her Advanced Professional Term Students training outreach program at McKernan School.

The program offers additional in-the-field work experience before the teachers in training enter their final student teaching assignments. The three weeks the students spend at McKernan is valuable preparation for their assignments as student teachers and for their careers as professional educators after graduation.

The APT students work with their classmates and with McKernan students in smaller groups than would exist in a regular student teaching assignment. With help from McKernan teachers and administrators, they deliver programming already underway in their assigned classrooms, develop inventive approaches to curricular content and have opportunities to design and debrief lessons with their own classmates and with the professional teaching staff. They can also conference with Iveson, with each other and with professional teachers about day-to-day teaching concerns or ideas and about the profession as a career.

Dentistry students open doors to serve community

Students in the School of Dentistry put on a clinic Feb. 12 to provide free dental services for hundreds of Edmontonians who otherwise wouldn't be able to afford it.

Now in its 21st year, this was the first time the annual Open Wide clinic was held in the school's new home at the Kaye Edmonton Clinic. The Open Wide clinic has helped more than 10,000 Edmontonians receive dental screenings and exams, fillings, teeth cleanings and extractions at no cost to them.

All hands were on deck as all four years of dental students, senior dental hygiene students and NAIT dental assistant students assisted more than 250 people identified by community groups as low-income patients in need of care.

"This day is about providing an important service to members of our community who struggle with access to basic dental care, and about our ability as students and faculty at the University of Alberta to give back," said David Leoni, a fourth-year DDS student.

"It is a very hectic day in our clinics, but the experience that the students receive is invaluable, and the service to the community is essential," said Steven Patterson, Open Wide committee member and associate chair (academic) in the School of Dentistry.

Record-breaking Golden Bears host Battle of Alberta

The U of A Golden Bears hockey team, which set a new CIS record and broke two Canada West records at the end of this season, begin the Canada West playoffs Feb. 22 when they host the No. 10 ranked U of C Dinos in a best-of-three semifinal series at Clare Drake Arena.

The Bears, celebrating their 100th season of play this year, are coming off a first-round playoff bye, while Calgary registered a 2-1 quarter-final series win over UBC last weekend in Calgary.

The most successful team in Canadian university men's hockey history, Alberta added to its historic accomplishments as it wrapped up the 2013 Canada West regular season Feb. 8-9, sweeping the UBC Thunderbirds in Vancouver.

The Bears made history Feb. 8 when they beat UBC 2-0 to become the first program in Canadian interuniversity hockey history to win 1,000 games. Alberta now has an all-time Canada West record of 1,001-332-67 (.739) in 1,400 games, dating back to the inaugural conference season of 1919-20.

The win also set a Canada West record for consecutive shutouts in a single season, as it was Alberta's third straight bagel after blanking the Regina Cougars 6-0 and 2-0 over the Feb. 1-2 weekend at Clare Drake Arena. On top of that, the sweep of UBC sealed a Canada West team record for fewest goals against, 46, in one season by one team. The previous record was 48, set by Alberta in 2003-04.

Beloved elder's memory honoured with enduring tribute



Kayla Lavallee holds a portrait of the late Marge Friedel. Lavallee is the first recipient of the Métis Elder Marge Friedel Award established in honour of Friedel's contributions to the university community.

Bev Betkowski

When Marge Friedel died suddenly, just as classes were starting in September of 2011, the University of Alberta lost a cherished presence.

Bearing warm bannock bread—usually baked at 5 a.m. the same morning—Friedel would come to the Aboriginal Student Services Centre, as she had for several years, to share time with students, offering comfort and the wisdom of her years. As a Métis elder based at the centre, Friedel, who was 75 when she passed away, was a gentle hub of support for stressed students, many of them far from home and the arms of their own families.

"Marge gave so much to the centre," said director Shana Dion. "She was here every Wednesday, rain or shine, she never missed a day, she would come in with warm bannock she had made. She was focused on education and on the students' academic journey. She cared deeply about their success as students."

Sitting one-on-one with students, Friedel—a silver-haired mother of four, a grandmother and a great-grandmother herself—quietly offered guidance and traditional knowledge that provided strength to a steady stream of students as they grappled with the workload of post-secondary studies.

"She provided a grandmotherly presence to many of our students and she had so much knowledge that they wanted to learn from her. Anyone who ever sat with her would come to the centre with a lot on their plates and when they left, some of that was alleviated," Dion said.

"She was an amazing spirit and her energy was always bright."

"She was focused on education and on the students' academic journey. She cared deeply about their success as students."

Shana Dion

Besides her quiet dedication to the U of A, Friedel was a member of the Métis Nation of Alberta Elders' Council and supported higher education as a founding elder of Edmonton's Amiskwaciy Academy.

In honour of Friedel's contributions as a U of A community member, the Métis Elder Marge Friedel Award for students was established through donations and has been awarded for the first time to third-year science student Kayla Lavallee.

Lavallee, who plans to study dentistry and is also a captain on

the U of A Pandas hockey team, was touched to be the first student chosen for the award. She never met Friedel, but did some research after she won the award, and learned about the beloved elder's extensive community involvement both on and off campus.

"She seemed like a leader and it's an honour to receive this award in her name."

Lavallee, 21, put the \$500 cash award toward tuition fees.

As a diligent student, Lavallee keeps a high grade point average, but still manages to strike a balance playing hockey for the Pandas and volunteering with young patients at the Stollery Children's Hospital. Deeply connected to her own Métis heritage, Lavallee contributes by playing and coaching high school women's hockey teams in the Aboriginal provincials each spring.

"It is important for me to celebrate being part of the Aboriginal community. Being Métis is part of who I am and I am proud my family is Métis."

Lavallee is also proud to be part of the U of A, she added.

"There are so many opportunities here to feel like you are part of something special. I think it's important to take advantage of being a student and enjoying that experience while here."

classified ads

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DiscoverE programming gives RISE to a Google honour

Richard Cairney

The Faculty of Engineering's DiscoverE outreach program has won a Google RISE (Roots in Science and Engineering) Award for its achievements in increasing access and interest in engineering, technology and science.

"It's really great news, and great recognition for all of the people who put so much passion and energy into DiscoverE," said Mohamed El-Daly, outreach co-ordinator in the Faculty of Engineering and director of DiscoverE.

DiscoverE is the first Canadian organization ever to win a Google RISE Award. Judges cited the program's overall impact but also singled out its accomplishments in empowering girls and under-represented communities.

In 2012, DiscoverE connected with 22,884 young people in 70 communities across Alberta and the Northwest Territories—and about 38 per cent of all participants were girls. Nearly 4,000 Aboriginal youths participated in camps, workshops and special events. After-school programs are also offered in some city schools.

The award includes \$20,000 in funding, which El-Daly says will support technology camps at the Alexis First Nation, in the city of Grande Prairie and in Yellowknife, N.W.T. It



Mohamed El-Daly, Faculty of Engineering outreach co-ordinator and DiscoverE director (centre), with DiscoverE team members (L-R) Natasia Oulette, Meagan O'Shea, Alissa Boyle and Josh Ikebuchi.

will also support computer or technology sessions at after-school clubs and community centres.

DiscoverE will also be represented at an international conference in London in June, sharing ideas and experiences with other RISE Award-winning programs from around the world.

"All of the recipients will come together to discuss their programs, share best practices and learn from each other," El-Daly said. "It is a really valuable opportunity to see what is happening and to get inspired by what other people are doing."

That has already happened, to a degree. El-Daly says he may try to incorporate ideas from a program in Africa, which teaches young people to use computer technology to solve community problems, into a new "Android App-lication camp" being added to DiscoverE's selection of summer camps this year.

"We will be teaching them how to build their own app and upload it on their own phone. And if we can get them to work on something related to communities, that would be phenomenal," said El-Daly, who is working on his PhD in civil engineering, specializing in water resources.

"We talk to our participants about how science and technology are related to communities. We say that engineering advances the community and the betterment of our lives, and it's true. Besides them learning, we want them to discover that what they do can have an impact locally and internationally, that what they learn here can have an impact on the world. It can go above and beyond." ■

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, email or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and at www.news.ualberta.ca/events. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

UNTIL MAR. 2

Immortal Beauty. A collaboration between the U of A Museums and the Prince Takamado Japan Centre in the Faculty of Arts, Immortal Beauty celebrates the work of master calligrapher Shikō Kataoka, in the context of calligraphy-inspired works from the U of A Art Collection. Admission by donation. Enterprise Square.

U of A Museums present Passion Project. This U of A Museums exhibition features 75 works from the U of A Art Collection, most of which have not yet been exhibited on campus. Passion Project tells the story of how the university has developed an outstanding art collection, shaped by the personal passion and collective vision of donors, artists, curators and community. Admission by donation. Enterprise Square.

FEB. 26, MARCH 5, 6, 8

Moodle Training, TLS Concepts and Course Design. The Centre for Teaching and Learning hosts a number of hands-on sessions to introduce Moodle features and course development to instructors. For more information, go to ctl.ualberta.ca.

FEB. 23, MARCH 2 & 13

Staging Diversity 2013 Artist-in-Residence Workshop Series. Artist-in-Residence for Winter 2013 and MFA candidate Nikki Shaffeeullah, is a theatre facilitator who has led arts-based community projects across Canada and internationally. Staging Diversity, a participatory, theatre-based research project, employs a variety of theatre-based methodologies to explore social location, with a focus on ancestral histories and cross-cultural myths, folk tales and legends. 12:30–2 p.m. 4-104 Education North.

FEB. 23

CIHR Cafe Scientifique: Searching for Cures? Medical Travel for Stem Cell Treatments. Canadian patients are travelling abroad to receive stem cell treatments that are scientifically unproven and not approved in Canada. Join law professors Ubaka Ogbogu and Tim Caulfield for an informal discussion on the scientific, medical and social implications of stem cell tourism. 4–6 p.m. Leva Cappuccino Bar, 11053 – 86 Ave. RSVP at [facebook.com/events/327540470683816](https://www.facebook.com/events/327540470683816).

FEB. 24

Chris Hedges: Days of Destruction, Days of Revolt. To kick off Freedom to Read Week 2013, Chris Hedges, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and writer, will talk about his latest book, *Days of Destruction, Days of Revolt*. 6:30–9 p.m. 1-430 CCIS.

FEB. 25

Noon Music – Instrumental. Noon–1 p.m. Convocation Hall.

FEB. 26

Faculty Forum: Grants and Developing Collaborations. 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. E6-060 ETLC.

FEB. 26 & MARCH 12

Bridges' Global Citizens' Café Sessions. Do you want to become more knowledgeable about the world, widen your perspectives and meet new people from a variety of backgrounds and cultures? Then join us for these biweekly sessions where you'll have the opportunity to listen to Bridges volunteers speak on issues they are passionate about. Noon–1 p.m. International Centre (172 HUB).

FEB. 27 & MARCH 6

Walking With Our Sisters. Beading sessions every Wednesday through April 24. 11–1 p.m. North Power Plant (Aboriginal Student Council Space).

FEB. 27

CTL Discussion Series: How can I teach students in large classes to write? The Centre for Teaching and Learning is hosting five discussion sessions where instructors can discuss a variety of teaching and writing topics among themselves. Writing Across the Curriculum director Roger Graves will lead the sessions. Find out more at ctl.ualberta.ca. Noon–1 p.m. 134 TELUS Centre.

FEB. 28

2013 President's State of the University Address. Please register online at president.ualberta.ca/2013stateoftheuniversity. Please contact Sheila at 780-492-1525 or sheila.stosky@ualberta.ca with questions or special requests. 12:30–1:30 p.m. L1-490 ECHA.

Using Social Media Tools to Enhance Learning. The Centre for Teaching and Learning is hosting this workshop to expose participants to different social

media technologies. Find out more at ctl.ualberta.ca. 10 a.m.–noon. 341 CAB.

The Legal Forum Centenary Speakers Series 2012-13. Tom Palmer, senior fellow at the Cato Institute, Washington, D.C., and executive vice-president for international programs at the Atlas Economic Research Foundation, will talk about his new book, *After the Welfare State*, in which Palmer argues government has used the mechanisms of the welfare state to hold power and live off the backs of future generations. Noon–1:30 p.m. 231/237 Law Centre.

Department of Political Science & China Institute Winter 2013 Speaker Series. This lecture, entitled *Foreign Policy Implications of Chinese Nationalism Revisited: The Strident Turn*, will see Suisheng Zhao, professor and director of the Center for China-US Cooperation at the University of Denver, revisit the debate about the foreign policy implications of Chinese nationalism after its re-emergence in the early 1990s in the context of China's increasingly confrontational and assertive behaviour in relations with Western countries and particularly its Asian-Pacific neighbours in recent years. 3:30–5 p.m. HM Tory 10-4.

UNTIL MAY 1

Call for Nominations: University Cup and Vargo Teaching Chair.

MARCH 1

Arts Reads. Arts Reads is a challenge that arts dean Leslie Cormack issued to all faculty and staff in fall 2012. Participants formed reading groups to discuss Clayton Christensen and Henry J. Eyring's *The Innovative University: Changing the DNA of Higher Education From the Inside Out*. The five reading groups who took up the challenge will present their thoughts about the book, and then an open discussion will follow on the topic of the significant issues facing higher education today. 3–4:30 p.m. Tory Lecture Theatre 11.

MARCH 3

Science Sunday for Kids. Explore the weird, wild and wonderful world of science at the U of A Museums' 14th annual Science Sunday for Kids. During this afternoon of discovery, kids aged five to 12 explore the natural sciences through a wide range of hands-on activities. Make a fossil, learn about ancient animal tracks, explore meteorite impact

craters, investigate insects, and more. Don't miss our special guest, John "The Nature Nut" Acorn. Noon–4 p.m. Earth Sciences Building.

Cabane à Sucre. Celebrate a French-Canadian tradition at the Cabane à Sucre. Enjoy some homemade maple toffee ("la tire"), strap on some snowshoes or catch a ride on a horse-drawn sleigh. 1–3 p.m. Hawrelak Park.

MARCH 4

Noon Music. Piano Solos and U of A Low Brass Ensemble. Noon–1 p.m. Convocation Hall.

Salute to the Bands 2013. The U of A Grant MacEwan University Jazz Bands I & II present Salute to the Bands 2013 – A Tribute to the Great Swing Bands of the 1930s and 1940s. 6:30–10:30 p.m. German Canadian Cultural Association (8310 Roper Road). Tickets are \$15 and available at music.ualberta.ca.

MARCH 5

Instructor Workshop: Integrating the CSL Experience Into Your Course
2–3:30 p.m. 418 Old Arts Building.

Using Writing to Teach Critical Thinking. Roger Graves, director of Writing Across the Curriculum, will lead this Centre for Teaching and Learning event. 3–4:30 p.m. 236/238 TELUS Centre.

Piano Studio Recital. Bachelor of music students in piano perform at the Augustana Campus. 8–9:30 p.m. Augustana Chapel, Camrose.

MARCH 6

Human Ecology Empey Lecture: Breaking Waves. To help mark the 40th anniversary of the Human Ecology Practicum Program, this year's Empey Lecture features Tara Fenwick, experiential education and community engagement professor from Stirling University, UK. Register at tinyurl.com/FOT2013. Noon–1 p.m. Lister Centre.

Wine With a Sense of Place. Join us for a wine tasting led by alumnus Gurminder Bhatia, owner of Vinomania, contributing editor for Tidings wine and food magazine, and wine columnist for the Edmonton Journal. 7–9 p.m. Newman Centre, St. Joseph's College.

MARCH 7

The Legal Forum Centenary Speakers Series. Rowland Harrison, TransCanada

Chair in Administrative and Regulatory Law, will give a talk entitled *The Assault of Regulatory 'Efficiency' on Procedural Fairness and Regulatory 'Effectiveness': Mandated Time Limits Under Recent Amendments to the National Energy Board Act*. Noon–1 p.m. 193 Law Centre.

Department of Political Science & China Institute Winter 2013 Speaker Series. This lecture, entitled *Implications of China's Post-Mao Reforms for Economic Development Models*, will see Albert Yee, political science professor at Colgate University, argue that China's economic success stems centrally from a series of dialectical relationships that fruitfully bridge tendencies that are normally analyzed separately. 3:30–5 p.m. HM Tory 10-4.

Yemen and Libya – A Study in Contrasts. As part of The Revolutions Continue MEAS Public Lecture Series, this talk will focus on discussing the past, present and future of the Arab revolutions; Islamism and the transition to democracy; liberalism, populism and the left; and gender equality and minority rights. 5–7 p.m. 1-91 HM Tory.

MARCH 8

MunchMUSIC Noon-hour Recital. Eat lunch while enjoying the performances of music students and faculty. No charge for admission. 12:15–1 p.m. Augustana Chapel, Camrose.

Jamie Syer, Piano and Laurie Syer, Violin. 8–9:30 p.m. Augustana Chapel, Camrose.

MARCH 8 & 9

Citizens' Summit on Nanotechnology and the Community. Call for Participants: We are currently seeking community members with experience in contributing to the development, culture, identity and economy of Edmonton and the Alberta Capital Region to participate in a dialogue on nanotechnology and the community. The goal of this community-led panel is to critically address what factors contribute to the successful integration of science development within future visions of the city. The panel will bring together community leaders and scientific, industry and municipal stakeholders. Contact Kevin Jones (k.e.jones@ualberta.ca) to inquire about participation. Enterprise Square.



A GOOD TIME TO BE WEARING GREEN & GOLD



University of Alberta Athletics had a home weekend for the ages Feb. 16 and 17. It began Saturday night when the Pandas volleyball team swept the University of Manitoba Bisons to advance to the Canada West semifinals. The momentum continued Sunday as both the Golden Bears and Pandas curling teams captured their respective western university curling championships at the Saville Community Sports Centre. The U of A wrestling teams followed curling's lead, dispatching all comers to win the Canada West men's and women's wrestling championships held in the Main Gym. Finally, the Pandas hockey team skated to a 4-1 victory over the visiting University of Saskatchewan Huskies to win their Canada West quarter-final series 2-1.